VAXstation 3100

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Planning and Preparation

Order Number: EK-286AA-RC-001

The VAXstation 3100™ Family

Congratulations! You are the new owner of a VAXstation 3100 workstation. Here are some suggestions to help you get started with your new system.

- The VAXstation 3100 family includes the Model 30 workstation and the Model 40 server/workstation.
- You can use either VAXstation 3100 system in a traditional workstation environment as an independent standalone system, or both in a work group with other VAX™ systems.

  You can also connect the standalone workstation, or a work group, to a network for communication with other systems.
- You can use VMS™, Desktop-VMS™, or ULTRIX™ software with your new systems.

  The Model 40 server/workstation or the VAXserver 3400™ provide the operating system, application software, system management, and data storage for diskless Model 30 members of a work group.
- The Model 40 server/workstation may be used as a workstation and a server at the same time, or as a server only.
- The Model 30 and Model 40 system units are contained in similar enclosures. The Model 40 enclosure is about 4.8 centimeters (2 inches) higher than the Model 30 enclosure.

Forming Work Groups

A work group consists of cooperating VAX systems connected by network cable.

- One specific type of work group that uses Ethernet network cable and VMS™ software (including VMS DECnet™ and VAXcluster™ software) is called a local area VAXcluster.
- Another type of work group is formed using ULTRIX software (Digital's version of the UNIX[1] operating system), TCP/IP networking protocols, and NFS[2] file-sharing software.

You form a work group when you connect one or more VAXstation 3100 Model 30 satellite workstations to a server. The server system manager provides all management and resources for the work group.

A work group can function independently, or it can join with other work groups to form a network.

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[1] UNIX® is the registered trademark of American Telephone and Telegraph Company.

[2] NFS™ is a trademark of Sun Microsystems, Inc.

4. Check the lighting available in each office.

   Does the available lighting provide a pleasant and productive work environment for each user? Plan to place monitors to avoid screen glare.

5. Clear a large enough work area before you receive the shipping cartons.

   You need room to unpack the cartons. Two people can comfortably lift the monitor and system unit from their cartons.

6. Clear a large enough work area for setup, placement, and ventilation of the equipment.

   A table or desk is a good choice on which to place the VAXstation 3100 workstation.

   The VAXserver 3400 system is a floor unit. It can be pushed against the wall once installation and cabling are complete. Two people can easily unpack and maneuver the VAXserver 3400 system.

   Equipment dimensions are listed in the following table.

System	Height	Depth	Width	Weight
Model 30	10.33 cm (4.07 in)	39.42 cm (15.52 in)	46.38 cm (18.26 in)	11.4 kg (25 lb)
Model 40	14.99 cm (5.9 in)	40 cm (15.75 in)	46.38 cm (18.26 in)	17.8 kg (39 lb)
VAXserver 3400	60 cm (27 in)	45 cm (17.8 in)	53 cm (21 in)	50–64 kg (110–149 lb)[1]

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[1] Weight depends on the options purchased.

7. Choose a place to store the empty shipping cartons.

   Cartons and shipping inserts should be kept in case you ever need to move the equipment.

8. Installing the VAXstation 3100 hardware takes between one and two hours. Complete installation instructions are included with your order.

If productivity requirements are high and the power in your area is noisy, then consider adding a power conditioner to your system.

2. Check the type of communications wiring in your building.

   VAXstation 3100 workstations connect to standard Ethernet, ThinWire™ Ethernet, or unshielded twisted-pair building wire. Network connections differ with the type of building wire. Your building manager can tell you the wiring scheme used in your building.

   - ThinWire Ethernet cable is a flexible coaxial cable used to connect workstations.

     DIGITAL recommends ThinWire Ethernet cable for new installations.

   - Measure your work area for ThinWire Ethernet cable as follows:

     Measure the running distance between a DEMPR (Digital Ethernet Multiport Repeater) or other network interface and the first workstation.

     Add the distance between each workstation to the first number. Keep in mind that the maximum length for one continuous segment of ThinWire cable is 185 meters (610 feet).

   - If the placement of systems changes after you place your order, you may have new network cable requirements. Note the changes and notify your sales representative.

3. Check the areas where the workstations are to be located.

   Are they free of static electrical discharge, excess heat, water, humidity, and dust? A factory installation needs more planning than an air-conditioned office.

   Complete hardware specifications are included in the system documentation.

Management Planning

To make the installation process a quick and simple one, inform your employees of the following:

- Identify where each workstation and server should go.
- Identify the recipients of each workstation.

  Recipients of servers will be managing their own system as well as the satellite systems in a work group.
- Identify the person responsible for setting up a DEMPR™ (Digital Ethernet Multiport Repeater) and the network cables for the workstations. DEMPR installation does not require network experience.
- Inform the network coordinator if VAXstation 3100 systems or VAXserver 3400 systems are to be connected to an existing network.

  You can add an almost unlimited number of systems, work groups, or local area VAXclusters to a network.

Introductory information about creating, designing, and expanding a network can be found in the *VAXstation 3100 Network Guide*. You may want DIGITAL expertise during network planning and installation.

Office Preparation

To ensure the smooth installation of your VAXstation 3100 workstations, read through the following list.

1. Check the power source in each office. Your building manager can help you identify the power available in your office.

   Does the power available match the 100–120 VAC or 220–240 VAC requirement for the VAXstation 3100/VAXserver 3400 systems?

   Digital recommends that you use a dedicated power source with isolated ground for each VAXstation 3100.

   Optional expansion boxes must be plugged into the same power source as the system unit. Use a power strip if you are connecting more than one expansion box.

   Do not exceed the current rating of the circuit to be used. The following table lists the equipment you can safely connect to each circuit:

15 AMP Circuit	**AMPs**	**20 AMP Circuit**	**AMPs**
One Model 40 system (with monitor)	6.3	One Model 40 system (with monitor)	6.3
Two expansion boxes	4.8	One Model 30 system (with monitor)	5.8
		One expansion box	2.4

   Ensure that all your other office equipment (from copiers to microwave ovens) are on a different circuit.

   (Please turn card over.)

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